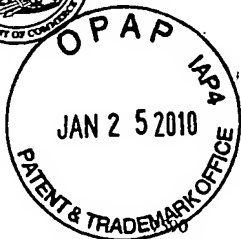




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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

10/16/2009

Mark A. Litman & Associates, P.A.
York Business Center, Suite 205
3209 West 76th Street
Edina, MN 55435

EXAMINER	
COLLINS, DOLORES R	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

3711

DATE MAILED: 10/16/2009

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/644,408

08/19/2003

Peter Krenn

PA.1046.AP.US

7585

TITLE OF INVENTION: PRE-SHUFFLER FOR A PLAYING CARD SHUFFLING MACHINE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	01/19/2010

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

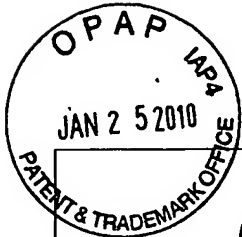
A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.



Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/644,408

Examiner

DOLORES COLLINS

Applicant(s)

KRENN ET AL.

Art Unit

3711

– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address–

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/28/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15 & 25-38.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

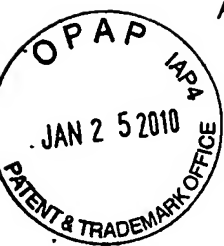
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 8/21/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Art Unit: 3711



DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-35 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the limitation recited in independent claims 1, 25 & 35 including a "main shuffler for rearranging the order of cards input into the main shuffler from the platform of compartments and for outputting cards in a substantially random order".

As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant's reply must either comply with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37 CFR 1.111(b) and MPEP § 707.07(a).

Conclusion

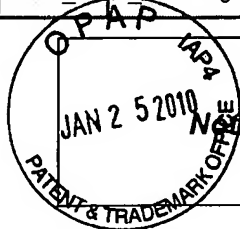
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure and are cited to show the state of art with respect to features of the claimed invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **DOLORES COLLINS** whose telephone number is **(571)272-4421**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Kim Eugene** can be reached on **(571) 272-4463**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at **866-217-9197** (toll-free).

/DOLORES COLLINS/
Examiner, Art Unit 3711
/Gene Kim/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3711



Notice of References Cited

Application/Control No.

10/644,408

Applicant(s)/Patent Under
Reexamination
KRENN ET AL.

Examiner

DOLORES COLLINS

Art Unit

3711

Page 1 of 2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
*	A	US-6,655,684	12-2003	Grauzer et al.	273/149R
*	B	US-6,676,127	01-2004	Johnson et al.	273/149R
*	C	US-6,659,460	12-2003	Blaha et al.	273/149R
*	D	US-6,889,979	05-2005	Blaha et al.	273/149R
*	E	US-2005/0040594	02-2005	Krenn et al.	273/149.00R
*	F	US-6,019,368 A	02-2000	Sines et al.	273/149R
*	G	US-6,325,373 B1	12-2001	Breeding et al.	273/149R
*	H	US-6,267,248 B1	07-2001	Johnson et al.	209/547
*	I	US-6,403,908 B2	06-2002	Stardust et al.	209/587
*	J	US-6,676,127 B2	01-2004	Johnson et al.	273/149R
*	K	US-6,588,750 B1	07-2003	Grauzer et al.	273/149R
*	L	US-2003/0075866 A1	04-2003	Blaha et al.	273/149.00R
*	M	US-3,944,230	03-1976	Fineman, Sol	273/149R

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 10/644,408	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination KRENN ET AL.	
	Examiner DOLORES COLLINS	Art Unit 3711	Page 2 of 2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
*	A	US-5,356,145 A	10-1994	Verschoor, Oetze A.	273/149R
	B	US-			
	C	US-			
	D	US-			
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

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	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office					Atty Docket No.		Serial No.	
					CAR-P-104		Not yet known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)					Applicant(s)			
					Peter Krenn, Ernst Blaha			
					Filing Date		Group	
					Herewith		Not yet known	
U.S. Patent Documents								
*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
	AA	6,267,248	7/31/01	Johnson et al.	209	547		
	AB	6,149,154	11/21/00	Grauzer et al.	273	149 R		
	AC	5,695,189	12/9/97	Breeding et al.	273	149 R		
	AD	6,139,014	10/31/00	Breeding et al.	273	149 R		
	AE	6,068,258	5/30/00	Breeding et al.	273	149 R		
	AF	6,325,373	12/4/01	Breeding et al.	273	149 R		
	AG	6,019,368	2/1/00	Sines et al.	273	149 R		
	AH	4,586,712	5/6/86	Lorber et al.	273	149 R		
	AI							
	AJ							
	AK							
Foreign Patent Documents								
							Translation	
		Document	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
	AQ	U.S. Application Serial No. 10/009,411, filing date: December 10, 2001.						
	AR	U.S. Application Serial No. 10/256,639, filing date: September 27, 2002.						
	AS	U.S. Application Serial No. 10/256,880, filing date: September 27, 2002.						
Examiner	/Dolores Collins/			Date Considered	09/09/2009			
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.								